

VZCZCXYZ3586  
PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHNK #0639 2791308  
ZNY CCCCC ZZH  
P 061308Z OCT 09  
FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8813  
INFO RUCNMGH/MAGHREB COLLECTIVE  
RUEHZK/ECOWAS COLLECTIVE  
RUEHAK/AMEMBASSY ANKARA 0009  
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 1226  
RUEHMD/AMEMBASSY MADRID 2369  
RUEHDO/AMEMBASSY DOHA 0771  
RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN 0819  
RUEHSM/AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM 0221  
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 0864  
RHMFISS/HQ USAFRICOM STUTTGART GE  
RHMFISS/COMSOCEUR VAIHINGEN GE  
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L NOUAKCHOTT 000639

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 10/05/2019  
TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [MR](#) [TU](#)  
SUBJECT: TURKEY TO OPEN EMBASSY IN MAURITANIA

REF: A. ANKARA 2018  
[1](#)B. ANKARA 2033  
[1](#)C. SECSTATE 121384

Classified By: CDA Dennis Hankins for reasons 1.4 (b and d)

[1](#)1. (U) According to press reports published on October 1, Turkish Foreign Affairs Minister Ahmed Davat Ogloo announced his country's intention to open an embassy in Nouakchott to strengthen Turkish-Mauritanian cooperation. This declaration followed Ogloo's meeting with Mauritanian Foreign Affairs Minister Naha Mint Mouknass on September 29 during the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York.

[1](#)2. (C) In 2008, Turkey announced plans to open 15 embassies in African countries, including in Mauritania (See ref A). The opening of a Turkish embassy in Nouakchott in 2009 was put on hold due to the August 6, 2008 coup d'etat, which Turkey strongly condemned (See refs B and C).

[1](#)3. (U) Comment: Foreign Minister Ogloo's announcement points to Turkey's intention to move forward with its plans now that the Mauritanian political crisis has been resolved. No concrete timeframe for the opening of a Turkish embassy has been provided. Other countries including Japan and, reportedly, Brazil are moving forward with opening embassies in Nouakchott. The UK will permanently assign a political officer from the embassy in Rabat to Mauritania. End comment.

HANKINS